

TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
Summary Notes/Minutes
Criminal Justice Field of Study Advisory Committee Meeting
1200 East Anderson Lane, Board Room
Austin, Texas
February 5, 2018, 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM
February 6, 2018, 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM

The webcasts of these meetings are available at the following links:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FJYYEuSkwQI>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RAMD7IXtMZw>

AGENDA ITEM	ACTION
<p>I. Call to order and introductions</p>	<p>Allen Michie called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM on February 5.</p> <p>The following committee members were present: Richard Becker, Lone Star College James Blair, South Texas College Jose Castillo, Northwest Vista College Linda J.D. Clark, Wharton County Junior College Eric J. Coleman, University of North Texas at Dallas Barbara J. Cooke, Texas A&M University-Kingsville Tamara Culver, McLennan Community College Kevin Fritze, Angelina College Stephen Gass, Texarkana College Camille Gibson, Prairie View A&M University Kent Kerley, The University of Texas at Arlington Dustin Lewis, Howard College-San Angelo Celia Lo, Texas Woman's University Kyle May, Hill College Jason Miller, Tarrant County College/Northwest College Patrick Patterson, Eastfield College Beth Pelz, University of Houston-Downtown (absent for February 6 session) Wendi Pollock, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Claudia San Miguel, Texas A&M International University Christine S. Sellers, Texas State University Megan Thoen, Texas Tech University Troy Thomas, Odessa College Rob Tillyer, The University of Texas at San Antonio Steve Wilson, The University of Texas Rio Grand Valley</p> <p>Coordinating Board Staff present: Rex Peebles, Assistant Commissioner Garry Tomerlin, Deputy Assistant Commissioner Allen Michie, Program Director Rebecca Leslie, Program Director</p>

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II. Consideration of election of Co-Chairs	Patrick Patterson and Richard Becker were nominated to serve as co-chair representing two-year institutions. Eric Coleman nominated himself to serve as co-chair representing four-year institutions. Eric Coleman was appointed by acclamation, and Richard Becker was elected.
III. Consideration of appointing a recording secretary	Camille Gibson volunteered to serve as recording secretary and was elected by acclamation.
IV. Public testimony	No members of the public were present to testify.
V. Overview of Field of Study rules and mission	<p>Allen Michie provided an overview of the Fields of Study (FOS) statute, how it is part of a wider range of transfer success initiatives, and how it contributes to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's <i>60x30TX</i> strategic plan.</p> <p>Rex Peebles added that the Coordinating Board hopes to offer consistency for the best interests of students across 50 community college districts and 6 university systems. Peebles reported that the loss of an average of 15-16 semester credit hours (SCH) as students transfer is a topic that has caught the attention of state legislators. He thanked committee members for their service.</p> <p>Term limits of one, two, and three years were randomly assigned to members. Co-chairs received three-year terms.</p>
VI. Discussion and consideration of Criminal Justice Field of Study curriculum	<p>Committee members began with a discussion of the preferred length of a FOS. The number of courses to promote student success needs to be balanced with student freedom of choice. It was noted that some FOS courses may also be in the university core, so students can "double dip" with the same course. Clark expressed the concern that transfers are being required to take more hours than their native counterparts.</p> <p>There was discussion of the Criminal Law course. Some institutions offer it only at the upper division, so students who take it in community colleges may sometimes have to take the course twice.</p> <p>The only Criminology course in the <i>Academic Course Guide Manual</i> (ACGM) is SOCI 2336, but many universities teach it as at the upper division with</p>

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	<p>specialized faculty. Members pointed out that the upper-division version is writing intensive, and it may include service learning and primary research. Pelz, San Miguel, and Pollock preferred that it be offered at the upper division given the content and the way it is taught.</p> <p>Members commented that Criminal Justice students need some theory at the lower division. Gass mentioned that theory often comes with problematic writing requirements at the lower division. Castillo commented that the discipline needs students who can write and who can “understand the why.”</p> <p>Becker introduced discussion of the Crime in America (CRIJ 1307) course. It was mentioned as one course that could incorporate theory. Universities tend not to require it, but Patterson stated that Eastfield College has an 18 SCH Criminal Justice certificate, and CRIJ 1307 is included.</p> <p>Michie told members that a separate Learning Outcomes committee could be assembled to review existing syllabi and look at learning objectives for the CRIJ courses in the ACGM. The last review was in 2014. Michie and Leslie pointed out that the <i>Workforce Education Course Manual</i> (WECM) and the ACGM are two different things, and WECM courses should not be used for academic programs such as Criminal Justice.</p> <p>Coleman asked if there is anything that Criminal Justice students need to know at the lower division level that is not reflected in the current FOS. Blair responded that an Ethics course would be good addition, along with a Philosophy course as a core curriculum option. Coleman added police community relations.</p> <p>Gibson and Becker added juvenile justice. Clark said that juvenile justice is covered in other courses, and Miller said that juvenile justice often gets cut if there are time constraints, so it needs its own course. Pollock asked if the juvenile justice content is more important than other potential additions. Gass replied that the content is best taught at the upper division, also including theory, as probation officers must have a bachelor’s degree. Gibson and Sellers added that with only one chapter on juvenile justice occasionally offered as a chapter in other courses, it is a “glaring gap.”</p> <p>Gibson made a motion to add Juvenile Justice System (CRIJ 1313) to the FOS. The motion passed. More</p>

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	<p>discussion followed about what would need to be cut in order to add CRIJ 1313, how the addition would take away limited options for electives, and how people working with juveniles would need a foundation in the subject matter. Coleman made a motion to revisit the vote the following day. The motion passed.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM. It reconvened at 8:30 AM on February 6, 2018.</p> <p>Discussion resumed about adding Juvenile Justice System (CRIJ 1313) to the FOS. During discussion, Clark stated that adding CRIJ 1313 would remove all student choice for electives with an 18 SCH FOS. Becker pointed out that 5 out of 40 universities currently offer it at the lower division. Members said that it is unlikely to be widely offered as a Social Science core curriculum option.</p> <p>A motion was made by Lo to not add Juvenile Justice System to the FOS. The motion passed.</p> <p>Discussion followed about how Juvenile Justice content is offered throughout a typical Criminal Justice degree program. San Miguel stated that it is important to allocate time to cover the topic. Castillo said that it is important for a complete Criminal Justice student at the two-year level. Tillyer stated that most Criminal Justice bachelor's degree graduates have taken it at some point. Gibson said that she had contacted people at different universities in Texas, and they see deficits in what students know about juvenile justice, but they are impressed with community college teaching on the topic.</p> <p>Clark made a motion to keep the Criminal Justice FOS at 15 SCH hours as it presently exists. The motion passed.</p> <p>Michie asked if the FOS should apply to any related degree programs. The committee responded that the FOS should also cover Investigations, Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Criminology, and Victim Studies.</p> <p>The FOS would likely not apply to Forensics, as these programs are usually based in the natural sciences rather than the social sciences.</p> <p>At Michie's recommendation, a motion was made by Pollock to authorize the co-chairs to approve the final wording of FOS, approve the minutes, and deal with other upcoming business on behalf of the committee.</p>

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	<p>Becker, Clark, Gass, Gibson, Miller, Patterson, Sellers, Blair, Culver, Thomas, and Lo indicated a willingness to serve on a Learning Objectives committee that would look at the course description and learning objectives for the Crime in America (CRIJ 1307) course and other CRIJ courses in the ACGM.</p>
<p>VII. Adjournment</p>	<p>Allen Michie summarized Coordinating Board procedures for the 30-day public comment period. Once the public comments have been received, the committee will need to respond, which it could choose to do via email or with another face-to-face meeting.</p> <p>Michie reminded members to submit their expense and time reports.</p> <p>Michie thanked committee members for their work, and a motion to adjourn was passed at 4:00 PM.</p>

Proposed 2018 Criminal Justice FOS Curriculum

Course Title	Course Number	Semester Credit Hours
Introduction to Criminal Justice	CRIJ 1301	3
Court Systems & Practices	CRIJ 1306	3
Fundamentals of Criminal Law	CRIJ 1310	3
Correctional Systems & Practices	CRIJ 2313	3
Police Systems & Practices	CRIJ 2328	3
TOTAL		15